

**Placer County Department of Health and Human Services
Children's System of Care
DISASTER RESPONSE PLAN**

Introduction/Definitions:	<p>Disasters come in all shapes and types, and are often unpredictable. Placer county's child welfare, and in particular, foster care populations, are among the most vulnerable potential victims of negative disaster outcomes.</p> <p>Disaster in Placer county may include, but not be limited to, extreme weather conditions of heat or cold, natural disaster including earthquake or flood, chemical spills, or outcomes due to terrorist action.</p> <p>Placer county provides child welfare services via a mature and seamless System of Care, including CPS, Mental Health, Juvenile Probation, Special Education, and Public Nursing. This architecture provides for fluid and timely communication not only within its child serving populations, but between the county authority and its key community partners.</p> <p>Under the direction of the Placer County Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), The Children's System of Care will respond to any and all disasters following this Disaster Response Plan guideline, as well as the local Emergency Operations Plan, administered by the OES. OES plans can be found at http://www.placer.ca.gov/Departments/CEO/Emergency.aspx</p> <p>This plan will include how to identify and locate Placer County foster children, other children adversely affected by the disaster, and how and when to respond to new referrals of suspected child abuse or neglect, under the adverse conditions of disaster mitigation.</p> <p>Preparedness involves the processes of getting and maintaining ready and avoidable resources.</p> <p>Evacuation processes for some consumer populations are included, namely the county operated Receiving Home, Special Education Schools, and the Juvenile Detention Facility.</p> <p>Client Services Practitioner refers to the case managing social work staff or other assigned clinician.</p> <p>After Hours Supervisor refers to the On call supervisory personnel responsible for all CSOC operations after 5 pm and on weekends.</p> <p>Dually diagnosed, and medically fragile children will be considered the highest priority during a disaster.</p>
Communication:	<p>Process Description;</p> <p>CSOC clinical staff usually a Client Services Practitioner (CSP),</p>

	<p>supervisors and managers who are routinely scheduled on the After Hours Calendar will respond as the Disaster Response Team, unless otherwise displaced as a result of the disaster or advised by HHS management. In the event the staff person has been displaced, the on call team with first awareness will notify CSOC Director or Assistant Director via cell phone or quick connection. The CSOC manager on call will function as team leader under response conditions.</p> <p>The Program Manager or designee will maintain communication with other essential child welfare personal, as well as the biological parents of any children who are effected or displaced because of the disaster. At the first opportunity, the county's Public Information Officer will be contacted to alert media partners per OES guidelines.</p> <p>On Call CSP staff contact information is maintained by After Hours Supervisor on Call, along with contact information for County Counsel, HHS administrative staff, and Juvenile Court judges and admin personnel.</p> <p>Once clear information is available as to the status of the effected minors, the assigned case manager or supervisor will contact the biological parents to inform them their child has been relocated temporarily without disclosing any confidential information.</p>
<p>Contacting Foster Care Children:</p> <p>Contacting Foster Care Children: (cont'd)</p>	<p>Process Description;</p> <p>On Call CSP staff will utilize the CWS/CMS database to locate Placer County Foster Children. The list of current foster children placements will be maintained in the on call materials kept by the After Hours Supervisor.</p> <p>The CSP on call will contact each child and foster family to determine if the foster child and foster family are safe. The foster child may need to be moved to another foster home and in some cases placed out of county temporarily until the county is deemed safe for the minor/s to return.</p> <p>The social worker will also utilize the on call judge and attorney lists to inform them of which children are directly affected by the disaster and provide information as to the temporary placement.</p> <p>A copy of the CWS/CMS printout of Placement of Placer County Foster Children will be provided monthly to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •CPS Supervisors •Asst. Director •On Call Program Manager

<p>Responding to referrals of children adversely affected by a disaster and any referral of suspected child abuse or neglect.</p>	<p>Identification of effected minors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attempt a phone call to the placement homes in the identified disaster area. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ If unable to reach the foster family or group home administrator, contact the emergency contact person listed in the placement log or the emergency contact person in the minor/s case file folder. ○ If unable to locate the <u>Foster Family Agency</u> foster family or the FFA Social Worker, contact the contact person listed in the placement log or the emergency contact person in the minor/s case file folder. ○ If unable to reach either the County Foster Family or Foster Family Agency Family or Social Worker, contact your supervisor who will determine if Law Enforcement needs to assist with locating the minor/s and families. <p>The After Hours supervisor or On Call Manager will make the decision if CSP should make a home visit or send law enforcement to make contact to complete a welfare check.</p> <p>Process Description; If an "Immediate response" referral is received during a disaster, consult with your supervisor regarding method of response and follow the protocols for usual response to CPS referrals unless directed otherwise. Depending on the nature and scope of the disaster, it may be necessary to seek accompaniment of Law Enforcement to assure safety of all parties during the investigation.</p>
<p>Client/Recipient In Crisis:</p>	<p>The CSP on call will discuss with After Hours Supervisor about the need to contact 911 dispatch or the Placer County Sheriffs Office, Office of Emergency Services, to coordinate with the efforts being made, to respond to the community during the disaster.</p>
<p>Care and Shelter:</p>	<p>If client needs emergency housing in a motel room, On call staff will discuss with the After Hours Supervisor about using emergency shelter care. Usual notification and coordination with Eligibility will be necessary to assure access to food stamps, transportation vouchers and other necessities. Information on emergency shelter care is contained in the Placer County resource pamphlet in the After Hours Materials.</p>
<p>Homeless Persons in Need:</p>	<p>If on call staff becomes aware of Homeless children and families or individuals that are in need of assistance due to the disaster, the CSP staff will discuss with the After Hours Supervisor regarding options for assistance.</p>
<p>Assistance Available:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Families will be assessed for immediate services and in the case of displaced foster child/ren may be relocated to another

	<p>foster home temporarily to assure continuity of services.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Placer Sheriff's Office can be reached at http://www.placer.ca.gov/Departments/Sheriff.aspx, or by phone at 530 889-7300.• Placer OES can be reached at http://www.placer.ca.gov/Departments/CEO/Emergency.aspx or by phone at 530-886-5300.• www.oes.ca.gov SEMS, Standardized Emergency management Systems web site and NIMS, National Incident of Emergency Management Systems for access• http://www.fire.ca.gov• http://safetyweb.uoregon.edu
References:	The County Emergency Operations Plan can be accessed through the county web site, under County of Placer Sheriffs Office, Office of Emergency Services, (insert email address Placer county.com)
Preserve Essential Program Records.	In the event of an evacuation at any CSOC clinic site, staff will adhere to existing policy on safeguarding and monitoring of Private Health Information.
Coordinate services and share information with other states.	The on call CSP staff will contact the appropriate case plan participants for any child that is placed out of county in either an ICPC, or court ordered placement in addition to the child's siblings and parents.

